

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /097 W

----- 103962

R 170930Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

FGIRUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 285

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4054

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP PFOR YO US

SUBJ: EDITORIAL REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO
TITO AND ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

REF : BELGRADE 4002

1. EDITORIAL OF MASS CIRCULATION POLITIKA AUG 16
ENTITLED "CONTINUATION WITH FORD" IS FIRST COMMENTARY ON
SUBSTANCE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE TO TITO. CALLING
MESSAGE "SIGNIFICANT", EDIT NOTES PRESIDENT "REALIZES
IMPORTANCE OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF (YUGOSLAVIA) AND ITS
NONALIGNED POSITION. THESE ARE INDEED THE FOUNDATIONS OF
OUR UNDERSTANDING CONFIRMED - AS RECALLED IN PRESIDENT
FORD'S MESSAGE - IN THE JOINT STATEMENT OF 1971 DURING THE
NIXON ADMINISTRATION." RECOLLECTION OF THESE PRINCIPLES
AT TIME OF POWER TRANSITION INDUCES POLITIKA TO
CONCLUDE THAT "CHANGE OF HELM OF AMERICA DOES NOT
IMPUGN GOOD FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND GENERAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND YUGOSLAVIA OR THE WILLINGNESS
OF THE TWO SIDES TO KEEP PROCEEDING ALONG THIS PATH. THIS
IS MOST CERTAINLY AN ENCOURAGING THING." EDIT ALSO NOTES
ASSURANCES OF SENATORS SCOTT AND MANSFIELD OF BIPARTISAN
SUPPORT OF US FOREIGN POLICY AND FACT THAT SECRETARY
KISSINGER WILL RETAIN POST.

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2. POLITIKA PIECE CONTRASTS WITH BORBA EDITORIAL AUG 14
WHICH STATED THAT ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT IDENTIFIED INFLATION
AS ENEMY NO. 1, HE, LIKE PREDECESSOR, IS AGAINST REDUCTION
OF MILITARY SEPNDING. ABIDING BY OBSESSION WITH PRESERVING
AMERICAN MILITARY PREEMINENCE, "FORD AUGURS NOTHING NEW
WHEN HE PROMISES RESUMPTION OF THE EXISTING FOREIGN
POLICY" BUT RATHER "AT LEAST THE PRESERVATION OF THE PAINFUL
STATUS QUO" IN SETTING PRIORITIES IN AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL
AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS. "FORED'S PRUDENCE COULD PROVE TO
BE A BRAKE AS REGARDS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY CHANGES RATHER
THAN THE 'MOTHER OF WISDOM" BORBA CONCLUDES.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BELGRA04054
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740227-0234
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740839/aaaabhcp.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BELGRADE 4002
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO TITO AND ADDRESS TO CONGRESS
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, YO, US
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005